



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Northern District of Texas

August 2, 2011

Via First Class Mail

Amanda Crawford
Chief, Open Records Division
Office of the Attorney General
Open Records Division
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Re: *Texas Public Information Act Requests to Parkland Hospital*

Dear Ms. Crawford:

I am writing at the request of the Dallas County Hospital District d/b/a Parkland Health & Hospital System (Parkland). Apparently, Reese Dunklin, Jack Fink, Brett Shipp and Mark Smith have submitted information requests pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act, TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§ 552.001 - .353 which seek, among other things, information which Parkland is now holding on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice. Parkland requested that I confirm our pending criminal investigation so that you may decide whether or not Parkland is required to release certain information to the public.

As you know, the Department of Justice is the executive branch in the federal government responsible for enforcing the laws of the United States. *See* 28 U.S.C. *et seq.* We are currently conducting a criminal investigation which, in broad terms, involves allegations of public corruption, tax evasion, and money laundering. As part of that ongoing investigation, we have directed Parkland to preserve and maintain certain records on our behalf. The information requests of Mr. Dunklin, Mr. Fink, Mr. Shipp, and Mr. Smith directly relate to the Department of Justice's active, on-going, investigation. Any release of information regarding this matter will interfere with and/or prejudice the ongoing investigation. *See* TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 552.108(a)(1) and (a)(2).

If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 659-8600.

JAMES T. JACKS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walt M. Junker", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Walt M. Junker
Assistant U.S. Attorney